

VOLTAGE MISMATCH TOLERANT INPUT/OUTPUT BUFFER

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 Embodiments of the invention include a data buffer for connecting a core of a data
circuit to a data pad. External devices may couple to the data pad even if they have a
different power supply voltage than does the core of the data circuit. A pass transistor is
coupled between the data pad and a data node in the buffer. A control circuit monitors a
signal on the data pad and drives the pass transistor according to the signal received, thereby
10 preventing damage due to voltage mismatch between the data circuit and the external device.